

PRESS RELEASE

July 13, 2004

Oregon's Small Grains - July Forecasts

Based on July 1 conditions, Oregon's winter wheat production is estimated at 50.15 million bushels, according to the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service. This is 590,000 bushels more than the June 1 forecast and is due to an increase in the harvested acreage estimate for 2004. Yield is expected to average 59.0 bushels per acre. This is unchanged from June 1 and 8 bushels per acre above 2003. Other spring wheat production, estimated at 8.75 million bushels, is 56 percent above 2003. The increase is due to more harvested acres in 2004 and a higher expected yield. Barley and oat production in Oregon is also expected to increase this year. Barley production is expected to increase 19 percent in 2004, and oat production is expected to increase 70 percent.

Pacific Northwest (Oregon, Idaho, and Washington) growers expect to produce slightly less winter wheat this year. Yields are expected to be up in all three States, but harvested acres are expected to decrease 7 percent from last year. Other spring wheat growers expect a 24 percent increase in this year's production due to increased harvested acres and a higher expected yield.

Nationally, winter wheat production on July 1 is forecast at 1.47 billion bushels, 14 percent below 2003. Other spring wheat production is forecast at 501 million bushels, down 6 percent from last year. Barley production is expected to decrease 5 percent from 2003, and oat production is expected to decrease 16 percent.

Oregon potato acreage down in 2004

An estimated 5,300 acres of fall potatoes will be harvested in Malheur County, 500 acres less than in 2003. Growers in other Oregon counties expect to harvest 34,700 acres in 2004, a decrease of 2,100 acres. Pacific Northwest harvested acreage is estimated at 548,000 acres, 3 percent below 2003. Harvested acreage is down 7 percent nationally.

Oregon peach production up

Oregon peach growers expect a 71 percent increase over last year's crop, at 7.7 million pounds. The 2003 peach crop was at a historically low level due to poor yields. Washington growers expect a 3 percent increase at 40.0 million pounds. Nationally, production is forecast at 2,612.4 million pounds, an increase of 4 percent.

Oregon: Acres Harvested, Yield and Production, Forecasted, July 1, 2004

Crop	Area Harvested			Yield		Production		
	2003	Forecast 2004	2004 2003	2003	Forecast 2004	2003	Forecast 2004	2004 2003
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>%</i>
Winter Wheat	940	850	90	51.0	59.0	47,940	50,150	105
Spring Wheat	140	175	125	40.0	50.0	5,600	8,750	156
Barley	60	62	103	64.0	74.0	3,840	4,588	119
Oats	20	30	150	75.0	85.0	1,500	2,550	170
Potatoes	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>	
	42.6	40.0	94	493	1/	20,991	1/	
Malheur Co.	5.8	5.3	91	415	1/	2,407	1/	
Other Oregon	36.8	34.7	94	505	1/	18,584	1/	

1/ The forecast of fall potatoes will be published in November 2004.